

TITLE 4. CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

Final Regulation

REGISTRAR'S NOTICE: The Marine Resources Commission is claiming an exemption from the Administrative Process Act in accordance with § 2.2-4006 A 11 of the Code of Virginia; however, the commission is required to publish the full text of final regulations.

Title of Regulation: **4VAC20-510. Pertaining to Amberjack and Cobia (amending 4VAC20-510-25).**

Statutory Authority: § 28.2-201 of the Code of Virginia.

Effective Date: October 25, 2017.

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Summary:

The amendment establishes the closure of the commercial cobia season after September 30, 2017.

4VAC20-510-25. Commercial fishery possession limits and season.

A. It shall be unlawful for any person fishing commercially to possess more than two amberjack or more than two cobia at any time, except as described in 4VAC20-510-33. Any amberjack or cobia caught after the possession limit has been reached shall be returned to the water immediately. When fishing from any boat or vessel where the entire catch is held in a common hold or container, the possession limit shall be for the boat or vessel and shall be equal to the number of persons on board legally eligible to fish multiplied by two. The captain or operator of the boat or vessel shall be responsible for any boat or vessel possession limit.

B. In 2017 it shall be unlawful for any person fishing commercially to harvest or possess any cobia after September 30.